

1915 Sandy Court  
Mansfield, Ohio 44904  
January 30, 1973

Dr. Virginia Apgar  
PO Box 2000  
White Plains, N.Y. 10602

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Dear Dr. Apgar,

I saw your appearance on the Cleveland Morning Exchange today but was unable to get through on the line to ask a question.

We have a three-month old son who was born with hyaline membrane disease and given less than a 50% chance of living. He was induced three weeks early and weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces at birth.

During my sixth month of pregnancy, I developed what my obstetrician referred to as gestational diabetes. You may be acquainted with him, as he is from Johns Hopkins, Dr. Carlos MacFarlane. I took no insulin for the problem but controlled it with the use of Labstix, eating or not eating sugar as the tests indicated. Now that the baby is born, the diabetes has disappeared.

Our pediatrician has said the next child will have a 90% chance of having hyaline. My husband and I have been unable to find out more about this disease and its cause, other than what it is. We would like to know if there is any research being done on the problem and if so, where can we assist.

As we live in a relatively small town, it is not possible for us to consult other pediatricians about the possibility of future children having the disease. Do you feel a 90% chance is realistic? We trust our pediatrician completely, but would like other opinions, as we have been advised by Dr. MacFarlane to consider sterilization after one more baby. Our son is the first child, and we would like at least one more.

Any help you can give us will be greatly appreciated, and I will look for your book as soon as I am in Cleveland.

The work you are doing with the March of Dimes is sensational. I have been the local publicity person here on our local campaign up until this year.

Sincerely,



Mrs. David A. Miller